

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An idle handoff controlling method effectively reduces the number of idle handoff processes in a cellular communication system. In the method, a first pilot channel having the strongest strength transmitted from one of a plurality of base stations as an active base station is searched and a strength of the first pilot channel is measured. A variable threshold value based on the first pilot channel strength is calculated. A paging channel having a neighbor list having a plurality of neighbor base stations is monitored in synchronization with the first pilot channel. A strength of a second pilot signal transmitted from one of the plurality of neighbor base stations is measured. The first pilot channel strength from the second pilot channel strength is subtracted to obtain a strength difference. It is judged whether the strength difference is greater than the variable threshold value. Performance of an idle handoff according to the judgement result is controlled. In the method, by reducing the number of the idle handoff in a cellular communication system, waste of a battery of the mobile station is reduced, arrival rate of the mobile station is increased, and communication efficiency of a reverse control channel becomes higher.